

05-21-03 AIDROV

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PROVISIONAL APPLICATION FOR PATENT COVER SHEET

This is a request for filing a PROVISIONAL APPLICATION FOR PATENT under 37 CFR 1.53(c).

Express Mail Label No. EV353872042US

1c893 U.S. P.T.
05/20/03

INVENTOR(S)				
Given Name (first and middle [if any])	Family Name or Surname	Residence (City and either State or Foreign Country)		
Niall R.	Lynam	Holland, Michigan		
<input type="checkbox"/> Additional inventors are being named on the _____ separately numbered sheets attached hereto				
TITLE OF THE INVENTION (500 characters max)				
MIRROR REFLECTIVE ELEMENT				
Direct all correspondence to: CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS				
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ENCLOSED APPLICATION PARTS (check all that apply)				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Specification	Number of Pages	13	<input type="checkbox"/> CD(s), Number	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s)	Number of Sheets	3	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify)	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Application Data Sheet. See 37 CFR 1.76				
METHOD OF PAYMENT OF FILING FEES FOR THIS PROVISIONAL APPLICATION FOR PATENT				
<input type="checkbox"/> Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27.			FILING FEE AMOUNT (\$)	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A check or money order is enclosed to cover the filing fees			\$160.00	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge filing fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account Number: 22-0190				
<input type="checkbox"/> Payment by credit card. Form PTO-2038 is attached.				
The invention was made by an agency of the United States Government or under a contract with an agency of the United States Government.				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No.				
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, the name of the U.S. Government agency and the Government contract number are: _____				

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60/471872
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Respectfully submitted,

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Date 05/20/2003

REGISTRATION NO. 42 540

(if appropriate)
Docket Number: DON01 P-1092

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This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.51. The information is used by the public to file (and by the PTO to process) a provisional application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 8 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the complete provisional application to the PTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, Washington, D.C. 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Box Provisional Application, Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

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PATENT
DON01 P-1092
Express Mail No. EV353872042US

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Niall R. Lynam
For : MIRROR REFLECTIVE ELEMENT

MS-Provisional Patent Application
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450


Dear Sir:

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I certify that the attached return postcard; a check in the amount of \$160.00 for the filing fee; Provisional Application For Patent Cover Sheet (1 page, in duplicate); Patent Application Bibliographic Data Sheet (1 page); 13 pages of specification; and 3 sheets of drawings are being deposited with the United States Postal Service as Express Mail in an envelope having Express Mail Label Number EV353872042US addressed to:

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on May 20, 2003.



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Enclosures

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APPLICATION INFORMATION

Title Line One:: MIRROR REFLECTIVE ELEMENT
Total Drawing Sheets:: 3
Formal Drawings?: No
Application Type:: Provisional
Docket Number:: DON01 P-1092
Secrecy Order in Parent Appl.?: No

REPRESENTATIVE INFORMATION

Representative Customer Number:: 28101
Source:: PrintEFS Version 1.0.1

PROVISIONAL
DON01 P-1092
Express Mail No. EV353872042US

MIRROR REFLECTIVE ELEMENT

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates generally to rearview mirror elements for a rearview mirror assembly of a vehicle and, more particularly, to exterior rearview mirror elements comprising multi-radius reflective elements.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Typically, mirror reflective elements are formed of glass and have a reflective coating deposited thereon, such as via vacuum deposition or wet chemical silvering or the like, such as on a silver line, such as described in U.S. Pat. No. 4,737,188, which is hereby incorporated herein by reference. Polymeric reflective elements are also known, such as are described in U.S. Pat. Nos. 6,409,354; 4,944,581; 4,385,804; 4,193,668; 4,666,264; and 5,483,386, which are hereby incorporated herein by reference. For such polymeric mirror reflective elements, the need exists for a hard coat or surface on the first or outer or exterior surface of the element which is contacted by the exterior elements, such as rain, road debris, or the like, or contacted, for example, by a person scraping ice or wiping snow or condensation off the mirror element outer surface, such as during winter. A variety of hard coats have been proposed in the art, typically applied by dip coating or vacuum deposition techniques. However, a need exists for an automotive mirror reflective element which has the properties of plastic (i.e., a specific gravity roughly half that of glass), and which has a glass-like exterior surface.

Also, exterior rearview mirror reflective elements may be aspheric or multi-radius, and may typically have a less curved or substantially flat (around 2000 mm radius or thereabouts) inboard portion or surface at the inboard side of the reflective element (i.e., closer to the side body of the vehicle when the mirror assembly is mounted to the vehicle), and a more curved multi-radius portion or surface at the outboard side of the reflective element (i.e., further from the side body of the vehicle when the mirror assembly is mounted to the vehicle), in order to provide an extended field of view. It is typically desirable to have the reflective elements or substrates of such exterior mirror elements to be formed of a glass material because glass material typically provides an enhanced scratch resistance over conventional optical resins and the like.

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